(a) whether it is a fact that a deadly viral disease has hit poultry farms all over the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the worst affected area is the NAMAKAL-WARANGAL-HYDERABAD belt in Andhra Pradesh;

(c) whether Government propose to assist the poultry farmers in Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) if so, in what form?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir, but the Namakal area is in Tamil Nadu and the Warangal area is in Andhra Pradesh.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Gumbro Disease in Poultry Farms in Andhra Pradesh

2261. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have sent a two member team to visit Andhra Pradesh where 'Gumbro' disease is prevalent in poultry farms;

(b) if so, the details of the visit of the team;

(c) the areas they visited; and

(d) the recommendations made by the team to combat this disease?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The investigating team along with State Officials visited the effected sites in Hyderabad on 15-6-93. Clinical cases were examined. The situation was looked into critically. The post-mortem examinations were carried out. The lesions were suggestive of mixed infection of Ranikhet and Gumbro Diseases. The necessary materials were collected and sent for laboratory examination.

(c) Hyderabad area.

(d) Long term and short term recommendations were made by the team in order to combat the disease situation in the area which are as follows:—

Short term:

1. To publish a detailed monograph highlighting the details of the dsease with vaccination schedule and future suggestion.

2. A wide publicity through Rudio and T. V. has made to enable the farmers to understand the disease problem. Local Television programme would be developed for telecast under regional programmes.

3. The reporting system has been intensified and should be telecast through tdevision and control measures will be adopted in order to prevent further losses from the disease.

4. A quick and precise diagnostic measures have been recommended to control the disease.

Long term:

1. A quick control of Veterinary biologicals and drugs is necessary to provide uniform health cover to poultry.

2. All the hatcheries owned by public and private sector should adopt a uniform vaccination pattern and adequate health cover to DOC should be provided so as to provide a better transfer maternal antibodies.

3. In order to prevent a wide spread and dissemination of the disease it is necessary to license the poultry farms so that strict zoo sanitary mesures can be implemented in cases of outbreak of infectious diseases.

4. Proper vaccination with suitable vaccines are to be done by the State authorities. Farmers should be educated in knowing the measures to be adopted for control of such diseases along with segregation and the disposal of the carcass. A uniform minimum vaccination schedule is necessary to be implemented for proper vaccination to the poultry.

5. Disease reporting system of the State should be improved in order to get information of such diseases well in time so that control measures could be adopted accordingly.

Development of Horticulture in Andhra Pradesh

2262. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to make any special efforts to develop horticulture in the areas of Andhra Pradesh climatically suited for fruit growing;

(b) whether it is a fact that fruits like grapes, custard apples and a wide variety have great

potential areas and districts in the vicinity of Hyderabad and

(c) what recommendations have been made by the Horticulture Board for fruit growing and organising exports of fruits from the areas and districts near Hyderabad and other parts of Andhra Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) National Horticulture Board has not made any recommendations in this regard.

Decontrol of Molasses

2263. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) what is the impact on the unit value realisation of sugarcane produced in different parts of the country with the decontrol of molasses;

(b) whether any inquiry has been conducted by Government in this regard; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefore ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) to (c) The market forces will take sometime to settle down and as such, it is not possible at prsnt to make any estimate of the impact of decontrol of molasses on the unit value realisation of sugarcane produced in different parts of the country. However, additional income derived from the sale of by-products, including molasses, is taken into account while computing the notified cost of production of sugar. Excess realisation by the sugar factories based on the aforesaid cost of production is required to be shared between cane growers and the sugar factories as provided under Clause 5A of the Sugarcane Control Order. In view of these provisions, Government has not conducted any inquiry in this regard.

Development of Mango Breeding

2264. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether ICAR has made any break through to develop mango breeds or seedlings, whose fruit-bearing period stretches beyond summer season;

(b) what is the research works and its results to improve mango varieties by ICAR;

(c) the reasons for not developing a variety which can bear fruit in seasons other than summer; and

(d) whether the export potential would improve greatly by developing mango strains which can be marketed beyond the present traditional period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY RESOURCES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) Research work undertaken at Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi and other centres in the country have resulted in development of Amrapalli, Mallika, Ratna, Sindhu, Arka Puneet, Arka Anmol and Arka Aruna varieties of mango. Of these, Amarapalli ripens during middle to end of July.

(d) Yes Sir, if these are acceptable in foreign countries.

Dry Land Cultivation

2265. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to put more emphasis on dry-land cultivation in Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) what are the areas in different States selected for encouraging dry land cultivation; and

(c) the funds earmarked for this purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) Yes, Sir. Comprehensive development of rainfed areas is one of the major thrusts during the Eighth Five Year Plan. A re-structured National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPRA) has been launched.

(b) All the Community Development Blocks in the country with less than 30% of their cultivated lands under assured means of irrigation are eligible for inclusion in the Project. About 2531 watersheds in as many blocks have been taken up for integrated development to serve as Models in 121 Agro-climatic Zones located throughout the country in 25 States and 3 Union Territories.

(c) An outlay of Rs. 1100 crore has been earmarked for Eighth Five Year Plan.